

acutâ ; anfractibus 6 convexis, ultimo spirâ paulò breviorè ; aperturâ semiovali ; pariete aperturali medio plicâ lævi, intrante munito ; columellâ medio lamellatim truncatâ ; peristomate simplice, acuto.

Long. $12\frac{1}{2}$, diam. 6 mill.

From the province of Merida, New Granada (Funck).

19. *BALÆA FUNCKI*, Pfr. *Bal. testâ sinistrorsâ, vix subrimatâ, turritâ, truncatâ, sublævigatâ, fuscâ ; anfractibus (spec. trunc.) 5 convexiusculis, ultimo basi rotundato ; aperturâ oblongo-semiovuli, intus fulvâ ; plicâ parietali validâ, compressâ, columellari obliquâ, obsoletâ ; peristomate albo, expanso, reflexiusculo, marginibus callo junctis, externo sinuato.*

Long. (spec. trunc.) 14, diam. 4 mill.

From Chachopo, province of Merida, New Granada (Funck).

MISCELLANEOUS.

On the Red Corpuscles of the Blood of the Mud-fish (Lepidosiren annectens). By ANDREW SMITH, M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, and GEORGE GULLIVER, F.R.S., Surgeon in the Royal Horse Guards.

IN the uncertainty as to whether the *Lepidosiren* is to be classed among Reptiles or Fishes, it is interesting to examine the characters of its blood-discs ; and Dr. Andrew Smith having procured some dried specimens of its blood, we have examined them together, and the following are short notes of the results :—

In shape and structure these blood-corpuscles are the same as those of the naked amphibia, and in size range between the blood-corpuscles of the *Siren* and of the *Triton*. The long diameter of these blood-corpuscles of the *Lepidosiren* is $\frac{1}{570}$ th, and the short diameter $\frac{1}{941}$ st of an inch, and the nuclei are $\frac{1}{1455}$ th long and $\frac{1}{2900}$ th broad : these are the average sizes in vulgar fractions of an English inch.

Now no blood-corpuscles, so far as we know, of any fish, are so large as these of the *Lepidosiren* ; while this great size is characteristic of the blood-corpuscles of some of the amphibious reptiles, as was long ago described by Professor Wagner, and may be seen, for comparison, in Mr. Gulliver's measurements of the blood-corpuscles of the *Proteus*, *Siren*, and *Triton*, in his Notes to the edition of Hewson's works printed for the Sydenham Society, and in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society, February 1848, p. 38.

FILAGO APICULATA, G. E. Smith.

The Rev. G. E. Smith discovered in Yorkshire a plant to which he gave the above name (Phytol. ii. 575), considering it a distinct species from *F. germanica* (Linn.). Although favoured with specimens by him, I was unable to satisfy myself of its just claims to specific rank. Recently (July 28) I had the pleasure of gathering it near Thetford, close to the station on Redneck Heath of *Apera in-*

terrupta, and am now quite satisfied of its distinctness. Its leaves are all blunt and apiculate, oblong; its heads are ten to twenty in each cluster, and prominently 5-angled as in *F. Jussiaei* (C. et G.), but they are deeply sunk in tomentum as in *F. germanica*; the cluster is overtopped by one or two blunt leaves which are wanting in the latter and acute in the former. There are also other differences. It is the *F. lutescens* of Jordan (*Plantes Nov. de la France*, iii. 201. pl. 7. fig. B.); that name was published in Sept. 1846, Mr. Smith's name in July 1846.

The pubescence of the three plants is very different and they are quite distinguishable at sight. I may add that the *F. Jussiaei* (C. et G.), which occurs plentifully from within two miles of Cambridge to the town of Linton, is probably, as remarked by Jordan, the *F. spatulata* (Presl); if so, that name must displace the one given by Cosson and Germain.

I believe that, previously to the discovery of *F. Jussiaei* near Linton by Mr. G. S. Gibson, it had been found in Sussex by Mr. Mitten, and in Dorsetshire by Mr. Woods.—C. C. B.

NOTE ON THE GENUS ALLORISMA. BY WILLIAM KING, ESQ.

Having satisfied myself that this genus, as I first described it (*Annals of Natural History*, November 1844), comprises two distinct genera, one of which is the *Edmondia* of De Koninck, I will here briefly point out a few of its distinctive characters, as now restricted, reserving a fuller description for my Monograph. I consider *Allorisma regularis** as the type of the genus. *Allorisma* possesses a siphonal inflexion, an edentulous hinge, and an external cartilage. It differs from *Pholadomya*—a closely-related genus—in the want of ribs proceeding from the umbones to the ventral margins, the valves being more or less wrinkled transversely. The anterior muscular impressions have a low or proximo-ventral position as in *Thracia pubescens*.

Allorisma elegans, n. sp. *Form* very inequilateral: *both ends* closed; anterior one the shortest, and oblique superiorly; posterior one squarish: *umbones* somewhat gibbous: *dorsal slopes* with a faint angle running from the umbone to the posterior end of the shell: *surface* slightly wrinkled transversely, and crowded with minute pimples: *pallial sinus* shallowish. *Amphidesma lunulata*, Keyserling, of the Petchora Permian marls, may be the same species. Humbleton and Whitley.—*Catalogue of the Organic Remains of the Permian Rocks of Northumberland and Durham*.

MELILOTUS ARVENSIS, Wallr.

On a recent visit to the neighbourhood of Thetford (July 28) in company with Mr. Borrer, Mr. G. S. Gibson, and Mr. Newbould, I had the pleasure of gathering specimens of this plant which grows there in considerable quantity. I am unable to state to which of the party the discovery belongs, but believe that it lies between Mr.

* *Geol. Russ.* vol. ii. pl. 19. fig. 9.—The fossil under this name, in pl. 21. fig. 11, is an *Edmondia*.